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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/722,547	11/28/2003	Hoi-Sing Kwok	016660-189	8365
21839	7590	07/17/2006	EXAMINER	
BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC POST OFFICE BOX 1404 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404			CALEY, MICHAEL H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3, 5, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 3, it is unclear whether the input and output polarizer angles, α and γ , refer to the orientation of the transmissive axis or the absorptive axis of the polarizer. Further, it is unclear whether the input polarizer is oriented at the proposed angle in a direction clockwise or counter-clockwise to the input director of the liquid crystal cell. Item (b) of claim 3 further appears to be inconsistent with the elected embodiment. The twist angle ϕ is specified as at 75 degrees. Item (b) of claim 3 specifies output polarizer angle γ as at an angle of -30 degrees (45 degrees minus 75 degrees), which is inconsistent with the elected embodiment output polarizer angle specification of 30 degrees (See specification, first preferred embodiment, page 8). It is unclear to the examiner whether the inconsistencies are due typographical error, or if the degree ranges are intended to be indicated as an absolute value, either clockwise or counter-clockwise from the reference angle.

Regarding claims 5, 15, and 16, it is unclear whether the input and output polarizer angles, α and γ , refer to the orientation of the transmissive axis or the absorptive axis of the polarizer. Further, it is unclear whether the input polarizer is oriented at the proposed angle in a direction clockwise or counter-clockwise to the input director of the liquid crystal cell.

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The specification fails to provide sufficient guidance to the examiner to resolve the new questions raised. Examination on the merits is possible only after these questions are resolved.

Contact Information


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael H. Caley whose telephone number is (571) 272-2286. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David C. Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael H. Caley
July 10, 2006


mhc


ANDREW SCHECHTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER